UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1996/46
22 January 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 22 JANUARY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the Iraqi motor boat Hamidi was intercepted by two Kuwaiti military fast patrol boats near marker No. 17 in the Khawr Abd Allah waterway as it left Khawr al-Zubayr port at 1520 hours on 18 December 1995. The two Kuwaiti vessels, each of which was crewed by five military personnel under the command of a first lieutenant, circled the Iraqi boat while their crews fired into the air. The soldiers then boarded the boat in a provocative manner, beat the captain and insulted him, members of his crew and the pilot responsible for navigation. They ordered the crew to discontinue their voyage and to head back to Khawr al-Zubayr. They left the boat at 1530 hours, having threatened to detain the crew if they continued their voyage.

I request that you intervene, in conformity with your responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations, to ensure that such unjustified acts of provocation by the Kuwaiti side are not repeated and to affirm that side's liability for the ensuing increase in regional tension, which affects the security and stability of the region.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

96-01209 (E) 230196 230196 240196